

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CHULA VISTA SAFETY COMMISSION**

**February 12, 2009
6:00 p.m.**

**Community Room
Chula Vista Police Department Headquarters**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:07 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Chair Liken; Commissioners Caudillo, Cochrane, Johnson, Moriarty, Navarro and Perrett

Absent: None

Also present: Frank Rivera, Principal Civil Engineer; Muna Cuthbert, Senior Civil Engineer; Police Officer Shon Thurman; Miguel Tapia, Sr. Planner; and Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Opening Statement

Opening statement read by Chair Liken.

4. Approval of Minutes: November 13, 2008 and January 8, 2009

MSC (Moriarty/Cochrane) to accept the minutes of November 13, 2008 as submitted. (5-0-2, Johnson/Navarro abstain)

January minutes were not available.

5. Oral Communications

The following persons requested assistance with parking problems in the neighborhoods adjacent to Southwestern College.

- a. Tom Davis, 1657 Gotham St., Chula Vista
- b. Linda Roberts, 1547-D Apache Dr., Chula Vista (also cited speeding problems in Charter Point)
- c. James Gafney, 1625 Gotham St., Chula Vista
- d. Laura Paulus, 1524-A Apache Dr., Chula Vista (also cited speeding problems in Charter Point)
- e. Richard Hibbard, 1651 Gotham St., Chula Vista (submitted photos of parked vehicles)
- f. Kathy Hibbard, 1651 Gotham St., Chula Vista (submitted photos of parked vehicles)

Chair Liken referred the requests for assistance to staff with a report back to the Safety Commission if needed. Principal Civil Engineer Rivera stated staff would meet with the residents and bring a report back as needed.

MEETING AGENDA

6. Resolution - Conversion of 27th Street Between Main Street and Faivre Street from a Two-Way Roadway to a One-Way Southbound Roadway

With several development proposals in the area of 27th Street, a request has been made to City staff that proposes to convert 27th Street, between Main Street and Faivre Street, from a narrow two-way road into a southbound one-way road. Chair Liken stated this is the third time this item has come before the Commission. This item was first heard in November with a vote to continue the item to the January meeting. At the January meeting, the item failed on a 3-2-2 vote (2 members absent). Principal Civil Engineer Rivera gave a presentation.

Because 27th Street forms an offset intersection with Broadway/Main, there is a raised median on Main Street, and based on traffic counts that 3/4ths of the cars go in a southbound direction, staff recommended

that 27th Street be converted to a one-way street southbound. The street width would be established for its ultimate requirements of sidewalk and allow the properties to be redeveloped in that area. Staff looked at the possibility of making the street one-way northbound, but the costs were prohibitive. Meetings were held with the property owners and all concurred with staff's recommendation.

Numerous slides were shown of the intersection, street, and surrounding area. The loading area for Otay Farms was shown. At last month's meeting questions were asked about loading area (whether it was an elevated loading dock or at grade). The loading area is at grade.

The initial cross section has been changed to show the east side (Otay Farms) street grade would drain towards a gutter to the west (no v-ditch in the middle), a 7 foot dedication, landscaping and parking. The curb face would go up against the property line. Ultimately, the street would be a single-loaded street (sidewalk only on one side of the street). The street would be 27-1/2 ft. from curb to the back, with enough room for parking/loading and provision of fire access. As the area redevelops, the parking/loading issues would be addressed as the street widens.

Sr. Civil Engineer Cuthbert stated that Mr. Frank Vasquez (who owns a business in the area) was in favor of staff's recommendation, but could not attend tonight's meeting. The owners of Otay Farms stated if they did not attend tonight's meeting, they had no problems with staff's recommendation.

Chair Liken asked if the only changes from last month's report are the drainage, 6-inch curb, and 27 ft. roadway. Mr. Rivera responded yes with the addition of the reserved parking area. Chair Liken asked why Otay Farms now had no objection. Mr. Rivera responded Otay Farms questioned why do the changes if it has been that way for many, many years. Staff's response to Otay Farms was the area has properties that want to redevelop and the City needs to work with them and establish the ultimate improvements.

Commissioner Cochrane mentioned at the last meeting there were numerous questions about the loading dock being elevated. He was satisfied with staff's presentation.

Staff Recommendation: Accept staff's report and adopt a resolution concurring with staff's recommendation to make 27th Street a one-way (southbound) street, from Main Street to Faivre Street.

Public hearing opened.

The following persons spoke in support of staff's recommendation:

1. Vian Yakou, Vy Engineering (representing Latif Zoura)
2. Bella Rojas, 1206 Sea Reef Dr. (ceded time to Walter Goodseal)
3. Walter Goodseal, Urban Design Group (representing Heriberto Gutierrez)
4. Heriberto Gutierrez, 2681 Main St. (Eddie's Tires & Auto)
5. Jay Ramos, Engineer of Work (representing 2981 Main St.)

Public hearing closed.

Commission Discussion: Chair Liken stated that the issues on the dedication, location of the center lines, parking, and grade are outside the purview of the Safety Commission. The Safety Commission needs to address the conversion of the street from two-way to one-way. Commissioner Perrett stated at the previous meetings, he was opposed to the recommendation and information he heard at those meetings. With the new information and clarification of the loading dock, he concurs with staff recommendation. He believed there was enough resolution from staff and the residents to vote for staff's recommendation. Commissioner Caudillo was in agreement with Commissioner Perrett. Commissioner Navarro stated that even though he was not present at the last two meetings, he did spend quite a bit of time at the site and based on staff's report and the public comments, he supported staff's recommendation.

MSUC (Cochrane/Navarro) to concur with staff recommendation. (7-0).

7. Traffic Engineering CIP Project Update

Sr. Civil Engineer gave a brief summary on the following projects:

TF-360	Major Intersection Safety Program
TF-368	Harborside Elementary Pedestrian Improvement
TF-362	Kids Walk and Bike to School
TF-307	Fourth Ave Street Light Improvements between L St. and Orange Ave.
STL-328	L St. Improvements between Monserate Ave. to Nacion Ave, relocation and replacement of street lights
TF-361	Safe Route to School, Rice/Otay Elementary Schools
TF-330	Traffic Signal Modifications and Pedestrian Ramps Installation at Fourth/Main & Fourth/Beyer
TF-331	Traffic Signal Modifications at Third Ave. and Montgomery Ave.

8. Traffic Accident Summary for November and December 2008

Officer Thurman stated the accident rates were down from last year and there were two pedestrian fatalities this year. The division has been working the areas of Nacion and Gotham. Hundreds of tickets have been given out, but rarely for blocking of driveways. He stated they had a recent successful court operation for DUI. They have also had a successful border operation where they impounded 60+ cars (expired plates, no driver's licenses).

OTHER BUSINESS

9. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Moriarty stated she will not be attending next month's meeting.

Chair Liken asked staff to look into the possibility of moving the location of the meetings back to the Council Chambers (possibly 3rd Thursdays).

10. Staff Comments

Principal Civil Engineer Rivera stated there has been news about the Economic Stimulus Package and hopefully the City will receive some funding for projects in Chula Vista.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:30 P.M. to the next scheduled meeting of March 12, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,



Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary